



# currents

what's happening at the bridge

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thebridgepres@gmail.com  
Thebridgepres.org

**Our *mission* at the bridge Presbyterian Church is to help people**

**Connect with God's people in your life  
Connect with God's purpose in your life  
Connect with God's passion for your life**

**Sun. May 17** – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom

**Sun. May 24** – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom

**Mon. May 25** - **Memorial Day** - - **Office Closed**

## Facebook Live and Zoom

**FB LIVE and Zoom - Wed. at 12:30**

**Sunday 10:00 am**—Worship -FB Live

**Zoom** - 9:25 - 9:55

if you have not been receiving invite to Zoom - email Wanda at thebridgpres@gmail.com. She will add you to the list.

Also look for login in info on Friday's Liturgy email

### The bridge Core Habits

What does a disciple of Jesus Christ look like at **the bridge**? Our core habits answer that question. Our core habits are:

*Pray daily - Worship together weekly - Welcome & Include everyone - Belong to a small group -  
Give generously - Cherish children -  
Forgive & reconcile continually - Serve our community*

## Worship Weekly

**Date:** May 17, 2020

**Title:** Wandering Pilgrims

**Text:** Hebrews 11: 1 -2; 8 – 13; 17 - 40

### **Questions:**

- Have you ever been forced to move from your home?
- As you listen to list of the 'Great Hero's of the Faith' in Hebrews 11, ask yourself what do they all have in common?
- Think of the times when you have grown the most in your trust in God. What was happening to you?



### bridge "Notes" from Patty



There's no doubt, I miss our bridge praise band all being together but I also miss **your** congregational singing! I hope you are singing along on Sundays but there's no way for me to tell. Thanks to "Occupy the bridge" We can see your pictures in your chairs and pretend you are singing along. If you have a favorite hymn you would like for us to sing, please send it to me at [patty.lyerly@gmail.com](mailto:patty.lyerly@gmail.com).

Last week we watched Matthew West's video "Quarantine Life". This week it's time for Mercy Me's "Hurry Up and Wait." I hope you will enjoy the video below. Thanks everyone.

<https://youtu.be/qxbfy8Rraw>

## **Worship at the bridge**

Going to virtual services at the bridge has not been a smooth transition, as you probably can tell, and we thank you for your patience. Since the start of Live Broadcasts, we have tried to use the equipment we have available to broadcast these services and each Sunday we have had to deal with another glitch. Doug and Patty, along with the newly formed AV Team, have been working daily on improving how we can worship God as we move into this new era.

On Monday morning the Session met and authorized ProAV Services to evaluate our technology needs, install the necessary upgraded components, and then train our team to proceed with this new equipment. It is the belief of the Session that this upgraded technology will be a long term need for the church as we go forward into this Covid 19 distancing. The AV Team under the leadership of Patty Lyerly is made up of Lisa Myers and Dave Bohn, and after meeting with ProAv, they are convinced this is the best solution for our long-term needs.

We have asked for speed in achieving this goal of improved Sunday services, but know that the components we need are not easily available, because every church is trying to do the same thing and the availability is limited. We know many of you are very frustrated and discouraged, but please know you can't be more discouraged than those who spend so much time preparing to bring you the word of God to run into a challenge each Sunday.

Thanks to the Session, the AV Team, Patty and Doug for their passion and direction in setting us on this new course. And thanks be to you and our God for staying with us as we walked this curvy road.

Cathy Boettcher  
Worship Elder



## **Pray Daily**

### **Prayers for:**

- Karen, surgery for thyroid cancer on May 14 (friend of Lisa Myers).
- Chris Vernon, pastor of Crosswinds, recovering from a surgical procedure; prayers for Chris, the staff, and his congregation.
- Vicky Martenis, recovering from recent cancer surgery; prayers for Vicky and her husband Bob as they face this serious health challenge (friend of Cathy Boettcher).
- Richard Cantin, radiation treatments on his salivary glands; prayers for Richard and Marie as they continue to deal with his ongoing health issues.

### **Sympathy**

- Family and friends of Linda Rheel, in her death from COVID-19 (friend of Cathy Boettcher).
- Husband and friends of Linda Vandeakker-Landrum, in her death from COVID-19 (former co-worker of Mary Ellen Cole).

### **Joys**

- Elizabeth Marisa Vernon, granddaughter of Marilyn and John Vernon, born on May 8, 2020 in Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Elliott, Police Office in Newton, NC and son of Jane Jones, tested negative for COVID-19 after becoming ill with virus-type symptoms.

**Note: Names in parentheses indicate those who made the prayer request.**



## Making a Prayer Request at the bridge



The Prayer and Care Ministry Team at the bridge welcomes and encourages your prayer requests for healing, sympathy, and celebration. We recently streamlined our prayer request process to ensure we and our congregation are praying for and celebrating with you.

### To make a prayer request:

Contact the church by email at [thebridgepres@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgepres@gmail.com) or by phone at 910-769-4951. You may also email or call Marilyn Vernon at [marilyn.vernon2@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn.vernon2@gmail.com) (301) 908-8704) or Ethel Adams at [girls4sling@gmail.com](mailto:girls4sling@gmail.com) (910) 383-3451.

### **Information we need:**

When making a request, identify the name of the person for whom you are requesting prayers (first name only is fine) and the specific reason or nature of the prayer request. Be sure to include your name. We will use your wording to describe the request in *Currents*, unless you prefer that it **not** be included there.

### **Prayer request list and Currents timeframe:**

Once you make a request, it will be forwarded to the Prayer and Care ministry team and added to the bridge Prayer List. The request will be included on both the bridge prayer list and in *Currents* for **two weeks**. If you wish to extend your prayer request beyond that time for an additional two weeks, simply notify the church or contact Marilyn Vernon or Ethel Adams.

Have a question? Contact anyone on the Prayer and Care Ministry Team: Ethel Adams, Susan Stanewick, Clyde Queen, Arleen Godshall, Mary Ellen Cole, Bettye Donovan, Cathy Purves, and Marilyn Vernon, Team Elder.

## **Cherish Children**



During this time, it is important to stay connected to each other and to God. Because we are unable to connect in person, the Children and Families Ministry team will do our best to keep up our "normal" Sunday morning routine of having a "lesson" with activities and crafts that go along with Dr. Doug's sermons. Families, please check your email for activities, lesson ideas, and other resources from Elizabeth Murray. Please email Elizabeth at [efmurray1975@gmail.com](mailto:efmurray1975@gmail.com) if you are not getting the resources and would like to.



**The bridge Presbyterian Church  
Congratulates the following Graduates and their  
families.**

Hailey, granddaughter of Charlynn and Pete Caillaud, graduating from high school in New Jersey in June.

Hailey plans to attend Seton Hall in New Jersey to study Nursing



Lucie Speck, granddaughter of Arleen and Phil Godshall, graduating with top honors from Trinity Episcopal School, Richmond, VA.

Lucie will attend the University of South Carolina's International Business College and received the VA Governors School of Excellence in International Language in French.



Rebecca Lindsey, daughter of Wanda Batten and granddaughter of Virgil and Ann Batten, graduating from Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Liberal Arts concentrating in Religious Studies.

Rebecca plans to attend Law School at the University of Georgia.



We'd love to recognize your 2020 graduate too: from elementary school to graduate school!

Please send their name, school, degree or accomplishment, and relationship to you

to [thebridgepres@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgepres@gmail.com).

# Give Generously

**This weeks offering is \$ 4,365.00**

A you continue to give generously during this time, you can mail your pledges to **497 Olde Waterford Way, Suite 205, Leland, NC 28451** or set up direct payment where your bank will mail a check. It is very easy to set up and if you have any questions or need help, one of the generosity team members will be glad to talk to you. Just let Wanda know.

## From your Generosity Elder: Bill Harwell

Part of the Federal Government's effort to soften the impact of the economic slowdown caused by the Coronavirus is known as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). This is a program administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA) and, as the name implies, aimed at small business. The loan, according to the guidelines, will turn into a grant if at least 75% of the loan is used to pay the employees and keep them on the job. Additionally, facility rent, and operating costs could be applied for as well.

With guidance from the Presbytery, we applied for the loan and were granted \$24,600 by SBA. The Church's payroll over the 2.5 month specified exceeds that 75% threshold so we should be able to qualify to have the loan forgiven. It is the Generosity Team's intention that none of the funds be spent until such time that the SBA declares the loan to be a grant to the Bridge. I want to thank the members of the Generosity Team for all their help and guidance. It is during the storm that everyone is grateful to the crew of the ship to see them through the raging sea. To the Generosity team, Harry Adams, Paul Ruprecht, Charlie Riddle and Gary Westphal and all the members of the Session I want to thank you for your steady hand.

As we all know, the past few weeks have been particularly trying times for us as we have not been able to meet for Sunday worship, small groups or other ministry endeavors so by necessity we are gathering virtually by Face Book and ZOOM. Let me take this opportunity to thank the Worship team lead by Cathy Boettcher, the audio visual team lead by Patty Lyerly, Wanda Batten and all who have given of their time to keep us together in the Body of Christ during these unprecedented times. I am thankful that God has placed these individuals at the Bridge. A special thanks should go out to our Pastor, Doug Cushing for his untiring leadership.

Finally you should know that the Session decided, even before the establishment of PPP, to do whatever necessary to keep our wonderful staff together so that the Bridge could continue to be the beacon that keeps us focused on the wonderful love that God pours out on us every day. Thanks be to God!

# Serve Our Community



## UPRECO - the Sheppard and Lapsley Presbyterian University of the Congo

Our featured Sustainable Mission Partner for May is UPRECO, the Sheppard and Lapsley Presbyterian University of the Congo. Their mission is to educate leaders for the Congolese Church and nation as pastors, educators, lawyers, computer technicians, and agronomists, in a Christian environment. Just \$300 provides one year of college. Our goal is to support women students and faculty with financial resources to nurture the well-being and rights of women in the Congo. If you feel called to make a donation to this global mission, please make your check out to the bridge Presbyterian Church, with UPRECO on the memo line, and send to 497 Olde Waterford Way, Ste. 205, Leland, NC 28451.



Looking for something useful and productive to do as the country begins to reopen from the virus lockdown? BFA has announced a **volunteer opportunity** to assist the homebound elderly, the medically disabled, and those without a means of transportation.

***Neighbor to Neighbor*** is a non-profit which provides free transportation to doctor's offices, the grocery store, the beauty parlor, etc. It matches volunteer drivers with the homebound to help them get assistance in the form of food supplies and medicine, as well as basic transportation concerns.

***Neighbor to Neighbor*** needs volunteers to assist with these services. There is an easy process to sign up and be vetted as a volunteer. There is a short application online at [RideN2N.org/Covid-19](https://RideN2N.org/Covid-19).

Print it out, fill in the information, then shoot a photo of it with a cell phone. Send the application to BFA by text or email. There will be a background check and a short orientation. Software will match the volunteer with a client based on the volunteer's availability (which is very flexible...based on their schedule), proximity to the homebound individual, and the need..

For more information visit the website at [RideN2N.org](https://RideN2N.org) or call Marty Cooke, NC Volunteer Coordinator at 910-393-7643 or 910-279-0003.

As soon as Brunswick Family Assistance resumes normal operations or volunteer opportunities arise, volunteers will be notified by email.



## Session Meeting Summary, May 4, 2020

### from Clerk of Session Susan Stanewick



The session met for its regular stated meeting via Zoom at 9AM.

Doug Cushing opened with prayer and led devotion. Minutes were approved.

Pastor's report: Discussion revolved around a U-tube video titled: Church in this VUCA world (volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous) Thinking ahead: How can we re-imagine the pathways/sequence of steps to growth for the church of 2022?

Session will consider input from Ed Weihs, Disaster Recovery elder along with guidance from PCUSA if and when offices might open and onsite worship resume. Nothing will be considered prior to May 18.

Disaster Recovery: Ed Weihs, VOAD meeting, May 5, 2020. Hurricane season will involve county emergency services preparation.

Family Ministry: Elizabeth Murray, VBS planning is in a holding pattern. Awaiting any guidance from Presbytery and camp plans for summer 2020.

Generosity: Bill Harwell, Financial update; budget and YTD income and expense reports were distributed online. The bridge was approved for a Payment Protection Program loan of \$24,600 under the auspices of the SBA government program. Upon receipt of funds we will apply for transition to grant status (must be accomplished within 8 weeks) If the grant is not approved, the bridge will pay back at a rate of 1%. A special note of appreciation goes to First Bank in assisting us in accomplishing this. Bill will provide information for Currents inclusion. Action: Generosity team recommended that an amount initially \$5,000 and then amended by motion to increase up to \$10,000-unanimous approval- for a line of credit to the worship/A-V team to use for equipment and consulting fees in its effort to update the church online streaming abilities.

Hospitality: Fran Rumpf : Zoom meeting will take place next week. Plans to roll out cookbook with goal of completion for holiday sales

Long Term Planning: Charlie Riddle, Action: Charlie made a motion with second by Ed to approve the following composition of the Personnel team. Unanimous approval. Team is Lynne Lewis, Elizabeth Murray, Luana Queen, Charles Riddle, elder and Steve Wingert. This team will be reconsidered and approved annually.

Missions: UPRECO will be the featured mission for May. Missions team is looking for a presence in the schools and has contacted CIS.

Prayer and Care: Marilyn provided a review of the new plan instituted by P&C to streamline prayer requests. This is an effort to simplify and make available within HIPPA guidelines

Small Groups: Julie Shackleton, Men's prayer group is working well on ZOOM platform. Some facilitators may need assistance in setting one up. Julie requested some instructional assistance from Wanda in the use of ZOOM by facilitators.

Worship: Cathy Boettcher, Cathy extended appreciation to Doug, Wanda and Patty for all their efforts in getting the bridge online, keeping folks informed and making church service accessible in spite of the lack of equipment and expertise. Action: Cathy Boettcher presented a proposal from the A-V/Worship team to contract with Pro AV Services LLC to update the audio/video streaming and recording system at the bridge. Generosity has approved funds required. The session unanimously approved the recommendation and A-V team will proceed. Appreciation extended to members of the team who have worked tirelessly in the past weeks to get the streaming services updated in the right way ASAP. In addition to elder Boettcher it would include, Dave Bohn, Patty Lyerly and Lisa Myers.

The next regular session meeting will take place June 3 at 4PM.

# Misc. Announcements

## Celebrating Birthdays at the bridge - May



Karen	Santone	8
Dana	Erbe	11
Clyde	Queen	11
Lydia	Stevens	17
Greer	Broadwater	19
Kerrin	Polaski	20
Don	Ullum	21
Page	Humphreys	24
Marilyn	Vernon	24
Ethel	Adams	27
Patricia	Shaffar	29